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(c) Rs. 18 per lb. is the lowest wholesale price of quinine sulphate.

(d) The wholesale market price per lb. of quinine in London is Rs. 18. At Calcutta the wholesale market price is about Rs. 18 per lb. The retail price at which quinine is sold by Chemists in India ranges from Rs. 24 to Rs. 32 per lb.

(e) The quinine is issued by the Local Government through the agency of the Madras Penitentiary and the sale-proceeds are credited to the Local Government.

(f) The net profits made by the sale of quinine in bulk and pice packets during 1926–27 and 1927–28 were Rs. 94,723 and 64,119 respectively.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" May I know why the Government do not reduce the price of quinine sold ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The matter is receiving the attention of the Government."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" How long will the Government consider this question, Sir ? They have been considering it for the last three years."

* The hon. the President :—" The hon. Member is furnishing information."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" I am asking what time they will take to come to a decision on this matter ? "

* The hon. the President :—" That is admissible."

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I cannot give a definite answer. I am sure the Government are not intentionally or unnecessarily delaying it."

Free distribution of quinine in malarial tracts in South Kanara.

*1038-B Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : With reference to the answer to question No. 423, answered on the 9th October 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have ascertained whether there are other taluks and other parts of the South Kanara district than the villages mentioned in the Karkal and Uppinangadi taluks which are afflicted with malaria and if so, what they are ; and

(b) whether Government have received complaints that the orders of Government regarding free distribution of quinine have not been carried out and if they have not been carried out, why ?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to item (12) on page 220 of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, dated 9th October 1928. The Government have asked the Special Malaria Officer to carry out malaria investigation in the Puttur taluk and if necessary to extend the investigation to the other taluks in the South Kanara district.

(b) No complaints have been received. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (b) of question No. 1038-A.

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know how they arrived at the conclusion that no complaints have been received when the fact is that the orders of the Government have not yet been carried out in certain parts of the taluk? I have myself heard a complaint?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is furnishing information."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I ask whether they ascertained from the local officers that no complaints have been received?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I may say, Sir, that the Government do not call for complaints. The Government have not received any complaints."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know whether at least now the Government will order proper distribution?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The distribution began in October. If there is any irregularity and if the hon. Member makes a representation, matters will be set right."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Is it not a fact that I have myself made a representation in writing saying there has been no proper distribution at all till now?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" My information is that the distribution was begun only in October. I do remember the receipt of a letter from the hon. Member and I have asked for a report."

Co-operative Societies

Alleged interference of the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore, in the elections to the Urban Bank, Tiruppattur.

* 1039 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Acting Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore Circle, recently interfered with the elections to the Urban Bank, Tiruppattur (North Arcot district);

(b) whether he issued what he called 'an interim stay order' with the intention of prohibiting the holding of the election;

(c) whether it is a fact that neither party sought the help of the Deputy Registrar or asked for his intervention;

(d) whether under the rules a Deputy Registrar has powers to issue such an 'interim stay order';

(e) whether the present Acting Deputy Registrar was promoted to that cadre overlooking the claims of many of his seniors in service;

(f) whether it is a fact that the 'stay order' was ignored by the Urban Bank and the elections were held; and

(g) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar threatens to proceed against the Urban Bank authorities for 'contempt of court'?

A.—(a) It is incorrect to say that the Deputy Registrar interfered. On the petition of T. S. Srinivasa Ayyar and five others he took up an arbitration case under rule XIV between the petitioners and the Directors of the Bank.